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towards the progress of chemistry in the whole of its domain.

Neutral countries may be admitted later. The next meeting of the conference will be held in London on July 15-18, that being the date of the annual meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry.

So far as Britain is concerned, the choice of representatives and the supervision of the arrangements for the first meeting will be in the hands of the Federal Council for Pure and Applied Chemistry, of which Sir William Pope is president and Professor H. E. Armstrong the honorary secretary. Until the various nations concerned have chosen their representatives, little can be done, but Sir William Pope and Professor Louis are provisionally acting as the British representatives, and are in communication with their French colleagues.

The meeting in Paris was held under the auspices of the French chemical societies, especially the Société de Chimie Industrielle, the president of which, M. Paul Kestner, presided at some of the meetings.

THE BRITISH IMPERIAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION

PLANS are being prepared for another Antarctic expedition, which will sail in the famous ship, *Terra Nova*, and be assisted by the latest improvements in aviation and wireless telegraphy. The organization is already in an advanced stage.

It will be known as the "British Imperial Antarctic Expedition," its leader being Mr. John L. Cope. Mr. Cope's name is well known in connection with expeditions to the Antarctic. He accompanied the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, 1914-17 as surgeon and biologist to the Ross Sea party, and was one of the party of nine who were left on the Great Ice Barrier to lay deposits after the *Aurora* had broken away from her moorings. Since returning to England Mr. Cope has served in the R.N.V.R. as a lieutenant, but he has never abandoned the idea of organizing a further venture at the earliest possible date.

Arrangements are so far advanced that the expedition will be able to leave England in June, 1920, and Mr. Cope states that the ex-

pedition will return in 1926. During the six years continuous communication is to be maintained with the centers of civilization by means of wireless equipment.

The main objects of the expedition will be:

1. To ascertain the position and extent of the mineralogical and other deposits of economic value known to exist in Antarctica, and arrange for their practical development as a further source of imperial wealth.

2. To obtain further evidence of the distribution and migration of the whales of economic value, and to create a British industry.

3. To investigate the meteorological and magnetic conditions of the Ross Sea area and at Cape Ann (Enderby Land) in connection with their influence on similar conditions in Australasia and South Africa, respectively. Such results have been proved of great value by the stations established by the Argentine government in the South Orkneys and by that established on Macquarie Island by the commonwealth of Australia, which has been given up owing to the war.

4. Generally to extend knowledge of Antarctica, especially with a view to obtaining further scientific data of economic importance.

Mr. Cope states that arrangements are being made to take an aeroplane to assist in surveying the interior of the continent. With this machine even a flight to the South Pole is contemplated.

The reason for calling the enterprise the "British Imperial Antarctic Expedition" is that the efforts of Mr. Cope and his comrades will be directed solely for the benefit of the British Empire. The temporary headquarters of the expedition are at 17, Somerset Street, W-1.

OUTLINE MAP OF THE UNITED STATES

THE United States Coast and Geodetic Survey has completed a new outline map of the United States on the Lambert conformal conic projection, scale 1-5,000,000.

This map is intended merely as a base to which may be added any kind of special information desired. The shore line is compiled from the most recent Coast and Geodetic Survey charts. State names and boundaries, prin-